



S/N 10/685714

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	NISHIWAKI et al.	Examiner:	unknown
Serial No.:	10/685714	Group Art Unit:	n/a
Filed:	October 14, 2003	Docket No.:	10873.1325US01
Title:	OPTICAL DISK DEVICE AND OPTICAL SPLITTING DEVICE		

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Mail Stop Patent Application, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on December 3, 2003.

By: *Sarah Monfeldt*
Name: Sarah Monfeldt

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b))

Mail Stop Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner.

This statement should be considered because it is submitted within three months of the filing date of the above-identified application, which is not an application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d). Accordingly, no fee is due for consideration of the items listed on the enclosed Form 1449.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2), a copy of each document or other information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 is provided.

No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicants do not represent that a reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

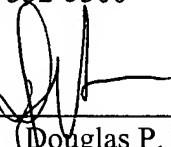
Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
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Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903
(612) 332-5300

By _____


Douglas P. Mueller
Reg. No. 30,300

Dated: December 3, 2003

DPM:smm

<p>FORM 1440*</p> <p>O P INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</p> <p>DEC 08 2003 JC46-301</p> <p>IN AN APPLICATION</p> <p>(Use several sheets if necessary)</p> <p>PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE</p>	Docket Number:	Application Number:
	10873.1325US01	10/685714
	Applicant: MISHIWAKI et al.	
	Filing Date: October 14, 2003	Group Art Unit: n/a

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO
	JP 2000-132848	May 2000	JAPAN			Abstract	

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

(Continued from page 1, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005)

23552
PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form for next communication to the Applicant.